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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**18 DECEMBER 2018**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) San Francisco – Judge Postpones Sentencing of Man Convicted in Terror Plots**

(U) The sentencing of an Oakland man who pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to a terrorist organization was continued Monday until 8 January 2018. Amer Alhaggagi, 23, pleaded guilty in July to the charge of attempting to provide material support for a terrorist organization. He admitted to opening email and Facebook accounts in November for people he believed to be supporters of the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Prosecutors are seeking a 33-year sentence and say he made dangerous threats of bombings and poisonings in conversations with an informant and an undercover FBI agent.

SOURCE: 17 December 2018, [CBS Bay Area](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) California – Thousands of Troops Remain On US-Mexico Border As Deployment Nears End**

(U) San Ysidro – Troops originally deployed to intercept the migrant caravan will remain on the border, according to US government officials. Despite an official completion of the mission, thousands of US troops will remain for an extended, albeit reduced, mission in support of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) slated to last through January 31 2019. At the height of the deployment, there were 5,900 active duty troops stationed in California, Arizona and Texas. That figure will drop to 2,500 to 3,000 troops, according to US officials.

SOURCE: 17 December 2018, [ABC News](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) District of Columbia – Cybersecurity Failures Raise Threat of 'Deadly Missile Attacks'**

(U) Washington – Basic cybersecurity lapses leave the US vulnerable to 'deadly missile attacks' according to a Defense Department's internal watchdog report. The report sums up eight months of investigation of the nation's ballistic missile defense system by the Pentagon's Office of Inspector General (IG). The audit examined five of the 104 Defense Department facilities that manage ballistic missile defense systems and technical information. Lapses include neglecting to encrypt classified flash drives and failing to put physical locks on critical computer servers.

SOURCE: 17 December 2018, [NBC News](#)

(U) Florida – Man Posted Bomb Instructions for Would-Be Attackers

(U) Broward County – A Pakistan-born South Florida man has been accused of posting detailed bomb-making instructions to online sites frequented by extremists, according to a federal complaint by the FBI. Tayyab Tahir Ismail, 33, posted the instructions at least five times between July and September, prosecutors said. He faces up to 20 years in prison if convicted. According to investigators, Ismail posted messages of support for ISIS and did his own online searches on how to build bomb. He also allegedly brought ISIS propaganda publications back to the US from Pakistan.

SOURCE: 17 December 2018, [Fox News](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Egypt – Roadside Bombs Kill Two in Sinai Police Convoy**

(U) El-Arish – Two roadside bombs have hit a police convoy in northern Sinai, killing two conscripts, according to Egyptian security officials. The officials say Monday's attack just west of the border town of Rafah also wounded six conscripts. The bombs struck two armored vehicles that were part of a convoy on a search-and-destroy mission in the area. Egypt has for years battled Islamic militants in the Sinai Peninsula. An all-out campaign by tens of thousands of troops and police against the militants began early this year, hitting hideouts, arms and ammunition depots and detaining scores of jihadis.

SOURCE: 18 December 2018, [AP](#)

(U) Germany – Authorities Raid Mosque in Terrorism Probe

(U) Berlin – German authorities say police are searching a Berlin mosque as part of an investigation into its Imam on suspicion he raised money to support an Islamic fighter in Syria. Berlin prosecutors said Tuesday that 45-year-old Ahmad A., whose last name wasn't given in line with privacy laws, was the target of the raid on the As-Sahaba mosque in the capital's Wedding district. They said in two tweets that Ahmad, who preaches under the name Abul Baraa, is suspected of financing terrorism for sending money to "a jihadi fighter in Syria for the purchase of military equipment."

SOURCE: 18 December 2018, [AP](#)

(U) Italy – Somali Man Arrested in Italy after Comments about Attacking Vatican

(U) Bari – Italian police arrested a 20-year-old Somali man suspected of having been a member of ISIS and who had threatened to bomb churches in Italy, including St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. The man, identified as Omar Moshin Ibrahim, was detained last Thursday and a magistrate had charged him on Monday with instigating terrorism and supporting terrorism. Police said Ibrahim was stopped following a month-long surveillance operation as he was about to leave the town of Bari where he worked for a cleaning company.

SOURCE: 17 December 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Somalia – US Airstrikes Kill 62 Militants

(U) Gandarshe – 62 militants were killed by US airstrikes in Somalia this month, according to US Africa Command. The strikes, which targeted al-Shabaab militants, were conducted near Gandarshe, Somalia. A strike on Saturday killed 34 militants, and a strike on Sunday killed 28 militants. The airstrikes were conducted in coordination with the Federal Government of Somalia to "prevent terrorists from using remote areas as a safe haven to plot, direct, inspire and recruit for future attacks," according to the statement.

SOURCE: 17 December 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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